

REMARKS

FIG. 1 has been amended such that the section lines shown therein have been relabeled to correspond to the figure that they are depicting. More particularly, section line A-A has been relabeled as 3-3, section line B-B has been relabeled as 4-4, and section line C-C has been relabeled as 5-5.

The Examiner has also objected to the drawings because the features recited in Claims 4 and 7 are not specifically illustrated in the drawings. The specification has been objected to for failure to provide antecedent basis for the features recited in Claims 4 and 7. These objections have been obviated by the cancellation herein of Claims 4 and 7.

Claims 2, 3, 5, 6, and 8-14 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Lorenz et al. U.S. Patent No. 4,008,840. Further, Claims 4 and 7 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Lorenz et al. reference. These claim rejections are respectfully traversed for the following reasons.

Applicant's attorney has amended independent Claim 6 such that it includes the features recited in dependent Claims 13 and 14 (which have been canceled), as well as other features which clarify and emphasize various novel aspects of the present invention. Amended independent Claim 6 relates to a drawing machine which includes a single closed drawing organ having a first drawing element and a second drawing element positioned substantially parallel to the first drawing element. A plurality of first clamping devices is connected to the first drawing element, each of the first clamping devices

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Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheet of drawing includes changes to FIG. 1. More particularly, the section lines shown in FIG. 1 have been relabeled as suggested by the Examiner.

Attachment: One Replacement Sheet

including a first clamping chuck, and a plurality of second clamping devices is connected to the second drawing element, each of the second clamping devices including a second clamping chuck. Each of the first and second clamping devices has a **retaining element** adapted to move each of the first and second clamping chucks between a closed position, in which the first and second clamping chucks are proximate to each other, and an open position, in which the first and second clamping chucks are remote from each other. The drawing machine also includes a first pair of wheels adapted to guide the first drawing element, and a second pair of wheels adapted to guide the second drawing element. As further cited in amended Claim 6, the retaining element of the first clamping device **engages through the first drawing element** in a direction parallel to the axis of the first pair of wheels, and the retaining element of the second clamping device **engages through the second drawing element** in a direction parallel to the axis of the second pair of wheels.

It is respectfully submitted that the Lorenz et al. reference does not anticipate or make obvious the present invention as recited in amended independent Claim 6. The Lorenz et al. reference discloses a transporting machine for gripping and withdrawing a workpiece, such as a wire. With reference to FIG. 1, the Lorenz et al. machine includes a pusher chain 5 (which the Examiner equates to as the drawing element of the present invention) and a plurality of gripping devices 6-9 (which the Examiner equates to as the clamping devices of the present invention) mounted on the chain 5. Each of the gripping devices 6-9 is pivoted to the chain 5 at two locations, one of which is identified as reference

numeral 14 and the other location is at bolt 15. The machine also includes a tensioning cam 23 (see FIGS. 1 and 4) which is arranged in a direction parallel to the chain 5. Each of the gripping devices 6-9 has a lever 24 and an arm 38 (see FIG. 4) which is sized and shaped so as to guide in a wedge 36. The wedge 36 is connected to the arm 38 via a bolt 40 and a spring 39. Changes in the guide track afforded by the cam 23 (see FIG. 4) which extends approximately equidistant to the chain 5, cause the lever 24 to be pivoted.

The gripping devices 6-9, which include jaws 29, 30, are dragged by the chain 5 over the pivotal connection 14 and members 42, 44, 46, and 47. Further, the gripping devices 6-9 are supported by rollers 56-59 on guide tracks 60 and 61.

In operation, the lever 24 relaxes the spring 39. After relaxing the spring 39, the arm 38 of the lever 24 moves the wedge 36 counter to the direction of advancement of the wire 1. Therefore, the Examiner's contention that the arm 38 and the lever 24 disclosed in the Lorenz et al. reference are retaining elements for the clamping device is incorrect.

Even if it is assumed for the sake of argument only that the arm 38 and the lever 24 are retaining elements for the gripping devices 6-9, the Lorenz et al. reference is void of any disclosure or suggestion to engage the arm 38 and the lever 24 through the chain 5. Although FIG. 4 of the Lorenz et al. reference does not label the chain 5, FIG. 4 illustrates the bolt 15 which as indicated above serves as a pivotal connection to the chain 5 which is running in a direction parallel to and about 1.5 cm underneath the cam 23 shown in FIG. 4. Accordingly, the lever 24 and the arm 38 do not engage through the chain 5,

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which the Examiner equates to the drawing element of the present invention. This is in direct contrast to the drawing machine recited in amended Claim 6 which specifically requires the first retaining element to **engage through the first drawing element** and the second retaining element to **engage through the second drawing element**.

In view of the distinctions discussed in the preceding paragraphs, it is respectfully submitted that the Lorenz et al. reference fails to disclose or suggest the drawing machine, as recited in amended Claim 6. Accordingly, applicant's attorney respectfully submits that the drawing machine recited in amended Claim 6 is patentably distinguishable from the machine disclosed in the Lorenz et al. reference.

In the foregoing circumstances, amended Claim 6 is believed to be in condition for allowance. Because Claims 2, 3, 5, and 8-12 depend, directly or indirectly, from amended Claim 6, they are also believed to be in condition for allowance.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, applicant's attorney respectfully requests reexamination and allowance of Claims 2, 3, 5, 6, and 8-12. If such action cannot be taken, the Examiner is cordially invited to place a telephone call to applicant's attorney in order that any outstanding issue may be resolved without the issuance of a further Office Action.

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No fees are believed to be due in connection with the submission of this Amendment. If there are any fees due as a result of this Amendment, including extension and petition fees, the Examiner is authorized to charge them to Deposit Account No. 501402.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Encl.

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